

Coach's Corner



JERRY BRIESATH, a member of the BCA Board and Chairman of the BCA Rules Committee, is known nationwide as one of the sports best instructors. The Billiard Congress of America's Instruction video tape "Consistency Is the Name of the Game" is featuring Briesath along with World Champion, Nick Varner.

You remember losing last night and have come to your local room to practice. You think you have to learn how to make those difficult shots because you remember missing so many times.

A common mistake that many amateurs make is to practice difficult shots, in example, even harder than a spot shot. The emphasis here is don't worry about hard shots, these are difficult for everyone. Most professional players will tell you that they have lost most of their matches, not because of a difficult shot but because of missing an easy shot. Or they may explain that they made an easy shot and missed position.

When you are practicing and you miss such a shot, set it up with the identical angle and shoot it again. if you miss it, notice whether you are undercutting it or overcutting it. Continue setting up and shooting the shot until you can make it three, four or even five times consecutively. Practicing this way will insure your making these easy shots with great regularity.

PRACTICE TIP

Throw two object balls and the cue ball out onto the table. Give yourself a fairly simple shot on the first object ball. Make the first ball and get position on the second ball. The object here is to see how easy you can make it look. When you can do this consistently, add a ball and begin again. This has helped me alot in slowing down and concentrating on that shot and position. Good Luck - The Editor